



Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 3235.2

April 20, 1983

USDR&E

SUBJECT: DoD Food and Nutrition Research, Development, Testing, Evaluation, and Engineering Program

- References: (a) [DoD 5025.1-M](#), "DoD Directives System Procedures," April 1981, authorized by [DoD Directive 5025.1](#), "Department of Defense Directives System," October 16, 1980
- (b) DoD Directive 1338.10, "Department of Defense Food Service Program," June 12, 1979
- (c) "Recommended Dietary Allowances" ¹
- (d) [DoD Directive 1308.1](#), "Physical Fitness and Weight Control Programs," June 29, 1981

1. PURPOSE

This Directive:

1.1. Establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, and prescribes procedures for the DoD Food and Nutrition Research, Development, Testing, Evaluation, and Engineering (RDTE&E) Program.

1.2. Authorizes, consistent with reference (a), the publication of DoD 3235.2-R, "DoD Food and Nutrition Research Program," which will replace Joint Services Regulation AR 70-3, OPNAV INST 3900.26, AFR 80-52, MCO 3900.9B, and DSAR 3200.4, "Department of Defense Food Research, Development, Testing, and Engineering Program," August 15, 1975.

1.3. Establishes the DoD Food and Nutrition Research and Engineering Board and the DoD Nutrition Committee.

¹ Available from National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, DC 20418.

2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (hereafter referred to collectively as "DoD Components"). "Military Services," as used herein, refers to the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard (when operating under the Department of the Navy).

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Food and Nutrition Engineering. Routine actions required to maintain and operate the DoD Food Service Program (distinct from research), to support the food and food service equipment acquisition program, to publish food service system and nutrition standards, and to conduct nutrition education programs.

3.2. Food and Nutrition Research. Basic and applied food science and nutrition research, nutrition education research, and food service system development programs carried out by the Department of Defense or by other Government Agencies at the request of the Department of Defense, to upgrade and improve the DoD Food Service Program (see DoD Directive 1338.10, reference (b)).

3.3. Food Service. Includes nutrition, acquisition and distribution of food supplies and equipment, menu and recipe planning, meal preparation and serving, sanitation, design and layout of facilities, personnel, training, and accounting and reporting.

4. POLICY

It is the policy of the Department of Defense to establish the DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program to meet the objectives and standards of the DoD Food Service Program, as established by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics), and the unique food service requirements of the DoD Components. The Military Services will not conduct individual programs in food and nutrition research.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. The Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USDR&E) shall:

5.1.1. Supervise and monitor the DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program to ensure that it is responsive to the needs of the DoD Components and to the objectives and standards of the DoD Food Service Program (see reference (b)).

5.1.2. Develop, publish, and maintain DoD 3235.2-R, consistent with DoD 5025.1-M (reference (a)).

5.1.3. Have the authority to grant exceptions to the research and development portions of this Directive and DoD 3235.2-R.

5.1.4. Establish procedures to ensure that new technology developed under the DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program is effectively transferred to and firmly under the control of the DoD Components.

5.1.5. Chair the DoD Food and Nutrition Research and Engineering Board and serve as the DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program final approving authority.

5.2. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) (ASD(HA)) shall:

5.2.1. Supervise and monitor activities in the DoD Food Service Program that concern sanitation, nutrition education, and nutrition standards.

5.2.2. Be the approving authority for DoD sanitation and nutrition standards developed and proposed by the Executive Agent (see paragraph 5.4.4., below.)

5.2.3. Assist the USDR&E in developing and maintaining DoD 3235.2-R, consistent with DoD 5025.1-M (reference (a)).

5.2.4. Have the authority to grant exceptions to food service sanitation and nutrition portions of this Directive and DoD 3235.2-R.

5.2.5. Chair the DoD Nutrition Committee and provide recommendations to the USDR&E for research and development requirements.

5.3. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics), consistent with DoD Directive 1338.10 (reference (b)), shall:

5.3.1. Ensure that the technology developed from the DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program is integrated properly into the DoD Food Service Program.

5.3.2. Provide recommendations to the USDR&E for research and development requirements needed to support the DoD Food Service Program.

5.4. The Secretary of the Army shall:

5.4.1. Act as DoD Executive Agent for operation of the DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program.

5.4.2. Give full consideration to the RDTE&E needs of the other DoD Components, applying appropriate efforts toward meeting those requirements by:

5.4.2.1. Maintaining an appropriate DoD technology base for military food and nutrition research.

5.4.2.2. Carrying out programming and budgeting actions for all food and nutrition advanced development research requirements based on approved requirements of the DoD Components.

5.4.2.3. Programming and budgeting for food and nutrition engineering requested by DoD Components.

5.4.2.4. Executing the approved DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program consistent with DoD guidance and availability of appropriations.

5.4.3. Appoint an Executive Secretary to coordinate the conduct of the DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program with the DoD Components and provide management and administrative support to the DoD Food and Nutrition Research and Engineering Board and the DoD Nutrition Committee.

5.4.4. Develop recommended DoD food sanitation and nutrition standards for submission through the DoD Nutrition Committee and approval by the ASD(HA).

5.5. The Secretaries of the Navy and Air Force and the Director, Defense Logistics Agency, shall:

5.5.1. Forward to the Executive Agent their approved food and nutrition RDTE&E requirements and engineering support needs for incorporation into the DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program.

5.5.2. Appoint representatives to the DoD Food and Nutrition Research and Engineering Board and the DoD Nutrition Committee (Military Departments only).

5.5.3. Assign, at their discretion, technical liaison officers to Army food and nutrition RDTE&E agencies or installations for coordination of research programming and execution and engineering support needs pertaining to their Components.

5.5.4. Provide an appropriate system for identification, verification, and headquarters-level approval of their respective food and nutrition research requirements and engineering support needs before submission to the Executive Agent.

5.6. The President of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) shall:

5.6.1. Ensure that education relating to nutritional science, basic and applied, and sanitation, including food sanitation, is included in the USUHS medical and continuing education curriculum and programs.

5.6.2. Appoint a representative to the DoD Nutrition Committee.

6. DoD FOOD AND NUTRITION RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING BOARD

6.1. Organization and Management. The Board shall:

6.1.1. Consist of representatives of the Military Services and the DLA, each of whom shall have one vote.

6.1.2. Be chaired by the USDR&E or designee.

6.1.3. Invite the attendance of observers from other DoD food program boards or committees or from other Federal Agencies with interests in DoD food and nutrition research and engineering.

6.2. Functions. The Board annually shall integrate and assign priority to all food and nutrition research requirements from the DoD Components into a proposed DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program for USDR&E approval.

7. DoD NUTRITION COMMITTEE

7.1. Organization and Management. The Committee shall:

7.1.1. Consist of representatives of the Military Departments' Surgeons General and the USUHS, each of whom shall have one vote.

7.1.2. Be chaired by the ASD(HA) or designee.

7.2. Functions. The Committee shall:

7.2.1. Review all proposed DoD food service sanitation and nutrition standards and provide recommendations to the ASD(HA) on their adoption.

7.2.2. Review all food service and nutrition research requirements, ensure that appropriate nutrition research plans and engineering programs are included in proposed efforts, and provide recommendations to the DoD Food and Nutrition Research and Engineering Board.

7.2.3. Invite the attendance of observers from other DoD food program boards or committees or from other Federal Agencies with interests in DoD sanitation and nutrition.

8. PROCEDURES

8.1. In general, priority shall be given to food and nutrition research requirements shared by two or more DoD Components to promote economy of research efforts. Research requirements of a single DoD Component may be placed ahead of multiple-sponsored requirements when appropriately justified in the judgement of the DoD Food and Nutrition Research and Engineering Board and recommended to the USDR&E. Board recommendations may be appealed directly to the USDR&E by the DoD Component concerned.

8.2. The DoD Food and Nutrition RDTE&E Program shall take maximum advantage of the scientific and technical capabilities of industry or other Government Agencies with food and nutrition research or related programs. The primary focus of the Program shall be on food packaging, equipment, and food systems to develop or improve general and specialized DoD food service programs in response to changing modes of warfare and food industry capabilities.

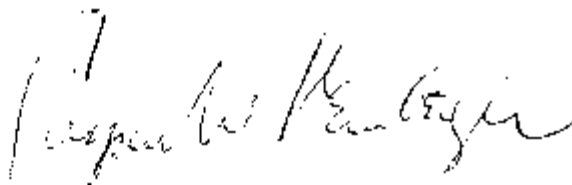
8.3. Food service sanitation standards shall be established to reduce the risk of food-induced illness to the lowest level possible under varying operational conditions encountered by DoD Components.

8.4. Nutrition standards for the daily food allowance for Service members shall be based on the latest edition of "Recommended Dietary Allowances" (reference (c)) and shall reflect scientific knowledge of the relationship of diet to health and prevention of certain chronic diseases such as hypertension, coronary heart disease, and diabetes.

8.5. DoD nutrition education programs shall support the objectives of the DoD Physical Fitness and Weight Control Program (see DoD Directive 1308.1, reference (d)) and shall be readily available for the use of commanders, food service personnel, Service members, and dependent families and for incorporation into education and training programs.

9. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive is effective immediately. Forward two copies of implementing documents to the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering within 120 days.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Caspar W. Weinberger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "W".

Caspar W. Weinberger
Secretary of Defense